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OUTSTANDING ISSUES, PROGRESS REGARDING SALT II DISCUSSED

Carter Cited on Talks

LD261318Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1200 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] President J. Carter, speaking to newsmen in Plains, Georgia, has assessed optimistically the prospects for concluding a U.S.-Soviet agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms in the near future. In the past week, disagreements on the SALT agreement have been considerably narrowed, Carter said. There are a couple of points in dispute, he said, which can be settled on a working basis by the delegations conducting the talks without requiring a new meeting at the foreign minister's level. The difficulties on all of the questions cannot be overcome very easily; that will take time. But I feel optimistic, and I am sure that a SALT agreement will be signed, the President stressed.

According to the New York TIMES, J. Carter said that he had spoken with Secretary of State Vance since the latter's return from Geneva, and that Vance had been enthusiastic about his meeting with USSR Foreign Minister Gromyko. I think we will conclude a SALT agreement with the USSR. I am still hopeful of that. I and Secretary of State C. Vance are by no means disappointed with the results of the Geneva talks.

On a Soviet-U.S. summit meeting, J. Carter said: In my view, it is becoming somewhat more remote, but only for a certain period of time. I think there's a good chance of a relatively early meeting between me and President L. I. Brezhnev, but I don't think it will be in January.

Anichkin Comments

LD261422Y Moscow TASS in English 1332 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

["Agreement Shall Be Reached"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, December 26, TASS--TASS observer Oleg Anichkin writes:

It is generally recognized that reaching a second stage of Soviet-American agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms (SALT 2) is not only of paramount significance for relations between the Soviet Union and the United States, for ending the arms race, but also for a considerable improvement of the international climate. This is precisely the attitude to the significance of such an agreement by most statesmen in different countries of the world.

Much time and efforts have been spent on finalising the agreement, and no responsible figure can deny the fact that the causes of the delay in reaching an agreement shall be looked for in the United States, which deviated from the coordinated principles of holding SALT talks (in the document of 1973 it was pointed out that new SALT agreements must be based on the principles of equal security and recognition of the fact that attempts at ensuring, directly or indirectly, unilateral advantages would be incompatible with the strengthening of peace relations between the USSR and the USA), and then from the Vladivostok understanding (1974). The striving of the American side to seal in the second agreement the right to having a supremacy in strategic armaments, and thus obtaining unilateral advantages would lead to an unjustified delay in concluding an agreement.

It took time and persistent efforts in order to place the talks on the basis of the principles of equality and equal security of both sides, without which any agreement is impossible.

As a result of the two latest meetings between USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance steps have been made towards reaching agreement. In the report on the talks, which were concluded late last week in Geneva, it was noted that questions pertaining to the limitation of strategic offensive arms were examined in terms of completing preparations for a new agreement at the earliest date. As a result of a concrete and detailed discussions, understanding was reached on the positions of the two sides became closer on a number of basic issues, which remained outstanding. Determination was stressed from both sides to bring to the end the coordination of the remaining issues through the use of usual channels between Moscow and Washington.

An overwhelming majority of the Americans, and this is seen from the results of the Gallup and Harris public opinion polls, come out for reaching Soviet-American SALT agreement at the earliest date. They believe with good reason that this meets the vital interests of the American nation and its security.

But certain groups of political forces making every effort to put obstacles in the way of the efforts directed at the limitation of strategic arms are still strong in the United States.

It is easy to see how these forces intend to establish military supremacy over the Soviet Union through stepping up the arms race and impeding talks and to gain an opportunity to pursue the positions of strength policy. Those forces in the United States which are making desperate efforts at impeding a SALT agreement would like to speed up the development and adoption among arms of a new generation of strategic offense arms. In doing so, they have recourse to unseemly methods, for example trying to discredit in advance the future agreement and presenting the Soviet Union's stand in a distorted manner.

And this time again the American press has alleged that it was through the fault of the Soviet Union that not all the issues have been resolved at the latest meeting in Geneva. This, to say the least, is an unscrupulous claim. Yes, there still remain outstanding issues, but this does not mean at all that the Soviet Union creates difficulties at the talks and has some special intentions. These questions will be also resolved through the usual diplomatic channels, and, perhaps, an additional meeting at the ministerial level will now not be necessary.

All this, regrettably, is a fresh reminder of the old propaganda themes of the opponents of the Soviet-American agreement: The Soviet Union is ascribed the striving to obtain a "superior nuclear potential", etc.

The charge made against the Soviet Union of its striving to achieve strategic supremacy is groundless. This is clearly seen from Leonid Brezhnev's pronouncement, which needs to be quoted again: "We do not set ourselves the aim of achieving a military supremacy. We also know that this very notion becomes senseless, with the present huge arsenals of the nuclear weapons already accumulated and the means of their delivery."

The whole experience accumulated over the last decades shows that the old motto "ci vis pacem para bellum" (if you want peace, get ready for war) is fraught with a fatal danger to the peoples of the world.

The last quarter of this century persistently demands that it be replaced with the principle "if you want peace, pursue a policy of peace, struggle for peace". It is high time to throw overboard in world politics the positions-of-strength policy, that is senseless and unrealistic in the nuclear age.

Losev Commentary

LD270318Y Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] News analyst Sergey Losev looks at the response of the American press to the recent Geneva meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Andrey Gromyko and Secretary of State Cyrus Vance.

Leading American newspapers have (?poured) deliberate pessimism (?on) the outcome of the 3-day talks, seeing them as a breakdown or something close to it. Curiously these are the same papers which hastened to tell their readers last Friday that full agreement had been reached in Geneva on all points of a new long-term Soviet-American accord on limitation of strategic offensive weapons.

What was really achieved in Geneva? After holding a detailed review the two sides reached agreement or brought their positions closer on a number of key outstanding issues. Both sides expressed determination to reach agreement on remaining questions through normal diplomatic channels between Moscow and Washington. According to Cyrus Vance, he and Andrey Gromyko were able to agree on most of the outstanding issues. He said both sides will do all they can to get the agreement ready for signing in the near future. He also agreed in principle on a meeting between President Carter and Leonid Brezhnev, with the date of the meeting to be agreed upon by Washington and Moscow.

President Carter, who is in Plains, Georgia, has told American journalists that he had a conversation with Cyrus Vance after his return home, who, he said, was inspired by his meetings with the Soviet delegation. I think we shall have a SALT agreement with the Soviet Union, President Carter said. I also think, he said, there's an excellent chance of a comparatively early meeting between myself and President Leonid Brezhnev.

What, then, is the reason for pessimism on the part of some American commentators? Some indication is provided by recent comments in the Washington POST and the New York TIMES. It is being claimed that if the Geneva meeting did not resolve all issues, the Soviet Union is to blame. There is not a grain of truth in the claim. Likewise, there is no substance in the charge that the Soviet Union created some new difficulties at the Geneva meeting and raised new problems. But Don Oberdorfer, writing in the Washington POST, says in a surprise move Andrey Gromyko raised the question of the term of the protocols to the SALT draft treaty concerning some interim measures limiting the testing and deployment of some new systems of nuclear weapons.

It is generally known, however, that the Soviet Union has always insisted that the protocols should be in force for 3 years after the date when the new accord limiting strategic offensive arms becomes effective. Secretary Vance was left in no doubt about this position during his Moscow talks last year. The United States, on the other hand, would like to see the protocol remaining in force for no more than 2 years, a position reaffirmed by Senate Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Frank Church. The purpose is to obtain unilateral advantage.

According to Senator Church the United States wants the protocol to ban the deployment of a Soviet mobile missile, but allow the United States to go ahead with the development of its own MX mobile missile.

The Pentagon's insistence on the reduced term of the protocols reveals a desire to leave a loophole for the cruise missile to make an early appearance on the territory of United States' NATO allies in Europe in the immediate vicinity of Soviet borders. Just as a reminder, the Soviet Union and the United States have agreed to ban air to ground cruise missiles with a range of more than 2,500 kms; cruise missiles with a range of 600 to 2,500 km are subject to limitation together with other strategic weapons. With regard to ground, naval and submarine cruise missiles with a range of over 600 km, by mutual agreement their testing and deployment is banned for the duration of the protocol, that is to say, for a 3-year term as envisaged by the Vladivostok agreement.

The delay is designed to allow time for the two sides to make a final decision on the cruise missile. However, already there are clear signs that the Pentagon wants to obtain a free hand in the deployment of such missiles, notably in Western Europe, which would effectively reduce the SALT agreement to a scrap of paper.

American press allegations that the Soviet Union is impeding the treaty signing are ludicrous. The 6-year negotiations could have been completed a long time ago were it not for the administration's policy of revising President Ford's Vladivostok commitments in 1974 for the sake of (?wresting) unilateral advantages for the United States. As a result, 3 years of invaluable time were wasted with the nuclear race shifting into top gear in the meantime. The deadlock was broken after September of last year due to the Soviet Union's constructive position and signs of flexibility and realism in the U.S. position.

The recent meeting in Geneva is a new, important move toward finalizing the agreement. It is a significant fact that the two sides have agreed to resolve the remaining questions through normal diplomatic channels without a new meeting between the heads of the foreign ministries. Clearly, the remaining difficulties in the way of agreement can and should be overcome. What is needed is strict observance of the principle of equal security, mutual interest and the interests of universal peace.

TOKYO, NOTEEC, YIELDS TO U.S. 'ARM-TWISTING' AT GATT TALKS

LD261646Y Moscow TASS in English 1602 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

["GATT: Things Have Not Budged an Inch"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, December 26, TASS--Ivan Ablamov, TASS economic commentator, writes:

A recess was again announced at the multilateral negotiations within the framework of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). The negotiations have been going on for more than five years already but up to now the negotiators, divided by most acute differences, cannot boast of any special successes. The leaders of seven major capitalist powers at the Bonn meeting in July this year took a decision to reach agreement within the GATT framework by December 15. But they failed to do that. It was postponed to the year's end. And a setback again. They had to postpone a continuation of the talks to January next year.

During the negotiations the United States resorted to an 'arm-twisting' tactics. Washington pressurised, first of all, Japan. Having taken a number of protectionist measures with regard to Japanese steel, colour television sets and automobiles, the USA was trying to wrest concessions from Tokyo for the import of a wide bracket of U.S. agricultural and industrial goods. To break Japan's resistance, Washington threatened with new restricting measures on the import of Japanese goods.

And Tokyo had to yield. The signing of a bilateral agreement between the USA and Japan within the GATT framework was announced in mid-December. Under the agreement, judging from everything, Japan complied to grant U.S. demands.

But when the USA tried to apply blackmail methods to West European countries, it proved diamond cutting diamond. Deep differences were revealed between the United States and Common Market countries. There is indignation in West European capitals that from January 3 Washington is raising import tariffs on goods the export of which is subsidised. According to expert estimates, this measure would affect the import of farm products into the USA from the EEC and will do damage, equal to approximately 500 million dollars, to the latter.

The Nine is trying to secure tariff concessions from the USA with regard to textiles, chemical-industry products, footwear, and other manufactures. For its part Washington is demanding a broader access of U.S. textiles, trucks, and chemical-industry products to EEC markets.

A fierce bargaining between the USA and the Common Market on these matters did not produce the expected results. In their latest communique the two sides stated only an intention to continue the talks. If one adds to all this the acutest differences between big capitalist states and the developing countries which are demanding an end to discrimination against their goods in Western countries, it will become clear that the tangle of contradictions between the negotiators within the GATT framework is not so easy to undo.

Bargaining will undoubtedly take on a still more fierce character. Western countries will be paced by a spectre of an impending new economic slump which they would like to prevent at the expense of world trade development. But in doing so they do not want to abandon the ruinous practice of keeping unequal, discriminatory relations.

OECD PROGNOSIS FOR 1979: SLOWER GROWTH, HIGH PRICES

LD221102Y Moscow TASS in English 0855 GMT 22 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Paris, December 22, TASS--Slower industrial growth rates, inflation, higher prices and unemployment are to remain the main problems for 24 capitalist countries, members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

As is forecast by the experts of this organization, the average increase of gross national product in 24 member--countries will drop to only 3 percent in 1979. And in the USA--to no more than 2 percent. A slump of business activity and a drop in domestic demand are also expected in the OECD zone.

Nor will the West be able to solve the problem of inflation. As is reported by the bulletin ECONOMIC PROSPECTS OF OECD the inflation rates, just as in the previous two years, are to remain at seven percent a year.

This will result in a further rise in the cost of living in the capitalist countries. Thus, in France prices are to go up 9.25 percent next year, in Britain--8.75 percent, in the USA--7 percent and in Japan--4 percent.

The real wages of working people are to be further forced down under the pretext of anti-inflation measures. Labour productivity and efficiency of production are to be enhanced chiefly through mass layoffs. As a result, the army of unemployed in the OECD countries is to exceed 18 million by the middle of the year which is 5.5 percent of the labour force.

USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES DENIES 'GENERAL PHENOMENA' CONFERENCE

LD270948Y Moscow TASS in English 0815 GMT 27 Dec 78 LD

["Provocative Action"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, December 27, TASS--The Soviet trade union newspaper TRUD has received letters from a number of readers concerning reports circulated in the West on the holding of an "international conference on general phenomena" in Moscow on December 27-29.

The Presidium of the USSR Academy of Sciences reported in reply to a question from the TRUD editorial office that the academy has nothing to do with the holding of the above-mentioned "conference" and that no international conferences are being held by the USSR Academy of Sciences during the period.

Western press reports on this conference can be regarded only as a provocative action by certain circles, an action which has nothing in common with science, the newspaper says.

MATVEYEV ON USSR-U.S. TIES: 'AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED'

LD261750Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1230 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Commentary by Vikentiy Matveyev, IZVESTIYA political observer in the series "Topical Problems of International Life"]

[Text] One can say without exaggeration that the state, progress and prospects of relations between our country and the United States still constitute a question attracting keen attention throughout the world. The Soviet-U.S. Strategic Arms Limitation Talks are drawing great interest. The future of the United States could depend on the progress of these talks, Senator Frank Church, who will become the chairman of the influential Senate Foreign Relations Committee at the beginning of 1979, said a few days ago. French President Giscard d'Estaing, FRG Chancellor Schmidt and British Prime Minister Callaghan have repeatedly expressed hope for a satisfactory completion of the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks.

Such interest and attention is quite logical: The Soviet Union and the United States are two of the major states in potential, although they have different social systems. However, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev noted recently, this does not prevent us from understanding the significance of normal, or even better, of good relations with the United States. For a correct understanding of this significance we do not need to be carried away by each other; it is sufficient, Comrade Brezhnev said, for each of us to be a patriot of our own country, to recognize its actual interests and to take care of them. It is precisely because of the international positions occupied by our country and by the United States that it is so important that normal bilateral relations be maintained and strengthened and that tension not dominate.

One cannot escape the fact that the greatest threat to universal peace arose in the postwar period, precisely when Soviet-U.S. relations were aggravated, when U.S. figures such as John Foster Dulles and others, who were filled with unrealizable and adventurous plans, resorted to all kinds of risky and dangerous actions directed against our interests and those of other socialist countries at the height of the cold war, which they themselves had unleashed.

As is known, there were times in the past when U.S. policymakers simply refused what they called recognition of the Soviet Union, which in practice was recognition of an indisputable historical fact. The American author William Manchester, in his book which came out in the United States in 1972, wrote that in the thirties teachers in American schools were even forbidden to mention the Soviet Union, while maps printed in America carried a blank space instead of the USSR.

Of course, much water has flowed under the bridge since those times. Today not one American figure, even a thick-headed one, would dare to claim indifference to the state of relations with our country. Moreover, two American journalists, Germond and Witcover, recently posed the following question: How can one determine that a U.S. political figure wants to run for president? They themselves answered the question this way: This can be determined if that figure goes to the Soviet Union.

No matter what very doubtful methods the transoceanic opponents of detente resort to, the fact remains that the overwhelming majority of Americans unhesitatingly advocate signing agreements with our country that would help reduce the danger of a destructive war and help stop the arms race.

As was shown by a public opinion poll conducted in the United States in mid-November, 75 percent of Americans stated their support for the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks. This is the highest figure in the last 2 years.

The noted political figure Averell Harriman, who was U.S. ambassador to our country during the World War II years, wrote about his activities in his memoirs, published in 1975: Although one cannot expect an ideological compromise between Moscow and us, we, the American side, must find a way to settle as many differences as possible with the Soviet Union in order to live together on this small planet without war. Harriman pointed out that the two countries had made progress in reducing tension, particularly in the nuclear sphere and in Europe. However, it is necessary, he wrote, to achieve considerably more.

Indeed, the world's arms race is not slackening; it is growing. Immense sums are still being spent on aims that have nothing in common with peaceful, civilian needs. While a special UN General Assembly session devoted to disarmament problems began in New York in May this year, the Atlantic bloc's Council was in session in Washington and approved a new long-term program for building up that bloc's armaments, based on an annual 3 percent increase in the NATO member-countries' military expenditures.

Being in the United States during the work of the UN General Assembly special session, I had the opportunity to see for myself how the bourgeois newspapers and television really whipped up passions, trying to bring home to the Americans that the Soviet Union is supposedly nourishing some kind of aggressive intentions regarding the Western countries, and is supposedly striving to deprive the United States of raw material sources in Africa and the Near East. At the same time, Brzezinski, the U.S. President's special national security adviser, who had gone to Peking, readily took up the Chinese leaders' provocative anti-Soviet pronouncements.

The outburst of such psychosis confirmed that there are powerful forces in the U.S. military-industrial complex interested in preventing the success of the strategic arms limitation talks, in preventing further development of detente and in worsening Soviet-U.S. relations. However, such bouts of military fever are not having the anticipated effect on the American public.

A great impression on the Americans was made by the story of the trip made by American boxer and public figure Muhammad Ali to our country and his meeting with Leonid Ilich Brezhnev. He said he was convinced of the profound love of peace of the Soviet people and the Soviet Government. Americans showed great interest in the 20-part documentary film on U.S. television about the Great Patriotic War, which was made with the participation of Soviet producers.

No matter how clouded the minds of some people in the United States have been by the venomous and provocative propaganda, they cannot fail to recognize that any U.S. Government steps directed toward stepping up the arms race will mean new taxes, new cuts in appropriations for the most acute domestic needs and new twists to the inflationary spirals and the high cost of living. According to assessments of competent U.S. specialists, the lack of agreement at Strategic Arms Limitation Talks now taking place would cost the United States a minimum of \$100 billion in extra military expenditures during the next few years.

In its recent statement, the U.S. national foreign trade council anxiously noted the drop in trade with our country while other major Western countries and as well as Japan are expanding trade with the socialist countries.

As a result, the statement points out, the United States, remaining alone, has found itself in an unadvantageous position in the sphere of trade. The joint U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council, whose purpose is to develop bilateral economic relations, now has a membership of 279 major, medium-sized and small industrial companies, banks and other U.S. organizations. The firms represented in the council account for about one-quarter of U.S. industrial production capacities. Mr. Jerity, who was in Moscow recently and who is the president of the board of ARMCO, a major U.S. metallurgical company, spoke convincingly about the benefits that even a moderate expansion of trade with our country could bring to the United States. In his words, if all the proposals which have now been prepared in the joint U.S.-USSR trade and economic council for expanding bilateral trade are realized, this would help create up to 600,000 new jobs in the United States. And the amount of work which the American enterprises have is a very, very topical and pressing matter for the United States.

The ups and downs in the sphere of Soviet-U.S. trade reflect the ups and downs in relations between our countries. The responsibility for such a situation is held by those U.S. circles that still have not rid themselves of cold war relapses. Involved in this are the attempts to bring pressure to bear on our country for the purpose of obtaining from us unilateral concessions, purposes incompatible with the interests of sovereign states. In the past such attempts have proved lamentable for their initiators in the United States, and they are all the more insolvent now, given the changed balance of world forces.

In recent years, as the result of persistent joint searching for mutually acceptable decisions in developing Soviet-U.S. relations and in settling urgent international problems, a whole system of Soviet-U.S. treaties, agreements and other documents has been set up between our country and the United States. There are dozens of such documents. Taken together, they have formed a solid political and legal basis for the development of mutually advantageous cooperation between our country and the United States on the principles of peaceful coexistence.

This is no small achievement. It has had a beneficial effect on the entire international situation. And these gains of peaceable policy should be consolidated and expanded. Such is truly the call of our time.

In his speech in Tula in 1977, Comrade Leonid Ilich Brezhnev said that we are ready to make, jointly with the new U.S. administration, a major new shift in relations between our countries. First and foremost, work on preparing a new strategic arms limitation agreement has to be completed. Then it would be possible to pass immediately to talks on more far-reaching measures for ending the arms race, primarily the nuclear arms race.

Soviet-U.S. cooperation can and must play a decisive part in making a radical shift for ending the arms race and reducing the danger of a nuclear war. The prime importance of accomplishing this task is stressed in the declaration adopted by the Warsaw Pact member countries at their recent meeting in Moscow. The Soviet side has repeatedly and authoritatively pointed out that our country is not striving for military supremacy. It is not a course toward armaments supremacy, but toward their reduction and the weakening of military confrontation that is our policy, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev states. It is on such a realistic and equal basis that further progressive development of Soviet-U.S. relations is possible.

How are things going? The near future will show that. International relations, including relations between our country and the United States, are at a crossroads leading either to a growth of trust and cooperation or to a growth of mutual fears, suspicion and the stockpiling of weapons; roads leading ultimately either to a lasting peace or, at best, to balancing on the edge of war. Detente offers the opportunity to choose the road of peace. It would be a crime before humanity and before the interests of a peaceful future for our world to miss this opportunity.

A new Soviet-U.S. meeting between USSR Foreign Minister Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko and U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance was held a few days ago in Geneva. Primary attention was given at the talks to examining the remaining unsettled questions concerning early preparation of a new strategic arms limitation agreement. As a result of specific and in-depth discussion, agreement or convergence of the sides' positions on a number of basic previously unsettled questions was reached. Both sides expressed the determination to finalize the settlement of the few remaining questions.

We recognize, Cyrus Vance said on arrival in Washington, the great importance that the undelayed achievement of a strategic arms limitation agreement has for peace. However, he added, we are not bound by any deadlines. Our main concern is to make the agreement a good one.

Great experience graphically indicates that given the goodwill of the interested parties, agreement can be reached, even on such a complex matter, for the benefit of the cause of peace and international mutual understanding. Such a development of Soviet-U.S. relations is expected not only by the peoples of our two countries, but by all peace-loving mankind.

USSR PAPER DECRIES U.S. 'SLANDER' OF SIBERIAN PROGRESS

LD221657Y Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 19 Dec 78 p 3 LD

[Article by Candidate of Economic Sciences D. Belorussov, sector complex chief of the USSR Gosplan West Siberia council for the study of productive forces: "Siberia: The Truth Versus Slander"]

[Text] The U.S. magazine BUSINESS WEEK has published an article by Peter Khann--"Siberia: The Soviet Economic Quagmire." These are some of the claims it makes:

1. "Inherent shortcomings in Soviet schemes have led to soaring development costs. And changes in the international situation make it unlikely that Moscow will have the foreign capital and technology that it was counting on."
2. "Unfortunately for Moscow, Siberia's population is now decreasing. Some 900,000 people left the region in the decade ending 1970. And this exodus continues. It is caused not so much by climatic conditions as the shortage of amenities--overcrowded housing, a shortage of hospitals and children's schools and so on."
3. "Probably the most important question regarding Siberia is whether its regions will develop at all in the foreseeable future. Unsupported by Western or Japanese credits and technology Soviet resources are close to exhaustion."

Just think--what touching concern for our affairs by a sworn friend: Fabrications of this sort could be simply ignored were they not a device so typical of anti-Soviets of every hue: to cast slurs on our reality from "sympathetic" positions, and to sow doubts and drive a wedge between us and our potential partners.

Why is it that Siberia sticks in their craw? It is because it is the leaven from which our economy's future, or rather its present might is already rising. Let us look at the indisputable facts.

The increase in West Siberia's economic potential is being implemented at a considerably greater rate than even the highly dynamic development of the USSR economy as a whole. Between 1951-1977 overall production of industrial output in the United States increased 3.1 times and 11 times in West Siberia. The present stage of the region's development is characterized by the intensive development of new territories, the broad introduction into economic circulation of major oil and gas deposits, forest and other resources, and the construction of major new industrial enterprises, railroads and highways, and the further development of the social and production infrastructure. Today West Siberia provides one-half of the Soviet Union's oil and gas condensate, one-quarter of its natural gas, one-fifth of its coal, and one-twelfth of its ferrous metal, synthetic tar and plastics.

A characteristic of the development of West Siberia's fuel and energy complex is its economic efficiency. The overall volume of capital investments during the period of its formation (1965-1980) will be around 50 billion roubles. A considerable amount of money is being invested; after all, the job being done is a tremendously useful one also. The net production of the oil and gas complex was valued at R26 billion in the 9th 5-Year Plan and at around 90 billion in the 10th.

Mighty centers of energy-intensive production units are taking shape in West Siberia on the basis of large fuel and water-energy resources. In addition to the oil-refining and chemical combines already operating in Omsk and Kemerovo respectively, by a decision of the 25th party congress the Tobolsk and Tomsk petrochemical complexes are being built.

The highly efficient production of paper, cardboard, plywood, sheet timber and other products of chemical and mechanical timber processing are being organized in the region.

Over huge tracts of West Siberia's fertile agricultural land an annual average of 14 million tons of grain has been gathered since the beginning of the present 5-year plan (and for Siberia as a whole the figure is 20 million tons). As regards industrial and agricultural development, and the socioeconomic importance of the problems being resolved, West Siberia is one of the USSR's largest economic complexes, and an important scientific and cultural center embracing the Siberian branch of the USSR Academy of Sciences, scores of scientific research establishments, and higher and special secondary academic institutions.

Does all this look like an "economic quagmire?"

The other fabrications contained in the magazine are equally untrue. The size of the population is falling catastrophically? Where do they get that from? True, in a country where there has not been unemployment for almost half a century and where productive forces are developing at such a consistently rapid rate, a cadre shortage is felt. It is felt in Siberia too. But certainly not on account of any exodus, but because the influx is not keeping pace with requirements. If Peter Khann had an ounce of honesty, instead of engaging in sordid fabrications he would take a look at the official statistical guides: In 1974 alone West Siberia's population increased by many thousands. And for Siberia and the Far East as a whole the balance of migration comes to a big annual plus.

It is quite natural that such high rates of exploitation of a region which is harsh and inaccessible should be fraught with considerable complications. [paragraph continues]

But it is as far from these complications to Kharm's fantasy about a catastrophic situation--crowded residential blocks, insufficient hospitals and schools, and so forth--as it is from heaven to hell.

Here are a few official figures. In 1965-1977 in Western Siberia alone 71 million square meters of well-equipped residential accommodation was constructed. For comparison, let us say that this newly erected housing area alone is the equivalent of approximately 11 such major modern cities as Kishinev or Vilnius. Moreover individual houses have been constructed with a total area of more than 67 million square meters. Would people who intended to depart from here really have launched such massive individual construction?

In terms of the number of hospital beds per 10,000 population Western Siberia exceeds the all union level by 11 percent. It is provided at an above average level with consumer and other services. Trade per head of population here is also significantly greater than the average for the union.

That is the real state of affairs. Nonetheless we will not refuse to discuss difficulties with cadres for Siberia frankly. There are practically no surplus labor resources in any region of the country, and in Siberia itself more than 90 percent of the able-bodied population is occupied in social production. We will say frankly that reserves are sparse.

This problem is being resolved with the help of two levers, tested by life. One is the patriotism of Soviet people and the labor enthusiasm of millions of pioneers, which is being manifested so brightly on the Baykal-Amur railroad construction and the exploitation of Samotlor and many other Siberian territorial industrial complexes. The other is the intensive introduction here of the leading achievements of science and technology, which insure increased labor productivity. Today Siberia's industry has become a testing ground on an unprecedented scale for the scientific and technical revolution which has been widely launched in the country. Thus the annual industrial output per worker in the oil extracting industry of Western Siberia is 5.1 times greater than the average for the union as a whole, in oil refining it is 1.5 times greater, in the gas industry--1.6 times, in the coal industry and construction--1.3 times....

The exploitation of Siberia's natural resources is being carried out by the Soviet people's forces, out of state capital investments, with the use of our country's first class technology. This does not mean that the Soviet Union refuses to make some use of the most progressive machinery and technology, as well as loans, from other industrially developed countries. Of course it does, when this is mutually advantageous. But in the last 15 years the proportion of foreign participation in total capital investments in the development of the West Siberian national economic complex has been less than 1 percent.

Businessmen in many capitalist countries are well aware of the advantage to them of economic ties with the Soviet Union. It is for this reason, and not out of philanthropic motives, that they embark on partnership with our country. In his speech at a Moscow dinner given in connection with the sixth session of the American-Soviet Trade and Economic Council, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, stated: "On our side we consistently advocate development of economic relations with the United States on the clear and honorable principles of equality and mutual advantage." This is the firm Soviet position, and it applies to our mutual relations with all countries. But even if it happens that somebody is led astray and reduces supplies and loans, this scarcely threatens the rate and level of the Soviet Union's economic development. All that the party and government have planned in developing Siberia's economy will be unconditionally fulfilled.

III. 27 Dec 78

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
UNITED STATES

U.S. POSITION IN WORLD SHIPPING MARKET NOT FAULT OF USSR

LD222036Y Moscow TASS in English 1906 GMT 22 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 22, TASS--TASS commentator Natalia Zinovyeva writes:

The paper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR carries today an article by Paul Hall, a board member of the National Maritime Council of the US, and prominent AFL-CIO leader. In it he voices anxiety over the loss by the United States of its positions on the world shipping market so that only five per cent of its total foreign commerce currently is transported in United States flag ships.

This anxiety and alarm is perhaps justified, but what is noteworthy, is the strange explanation about the causes of the deplorable state of the U.S. merchant fleet and the mass unemployed among American seamen. In his article Paul Hall is trying to produce the impression that it is Soviet charter operations that are to blame for everything, and to accuse the Soviet Union of using its merchant marine for capturing world markets and even for military purposes.

Such assertions, dissiminated periodically by the Western, especially American propaganda, are absolutely groundless. The Soviet merchant fleet is developing in accordance with the needs of the Soviet Union's national economy and pursues economic goals stemming from the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy, built on the principles of non-interference in the affairs of other countries and of promoting economic cooperation with all countries, irrespective of their social system.

And if Soviet shipping companies do offer their services to foreign freighters, the volume of such services does not occupy a considerable place in the Soviet Merchant Marine's shipping operations. Thus, according to a statement published last summer by the USSR Ministry of the Merchant Marine, the share of all cargo shipments of foreign freighters' goods in 1978 came only slightly to above 13 per cent of the total Soviet freightage.

The real causes of the American merchant fleet's growing difficulties lie in the steep sharpening of world shipping competition, both in connection with the general economic slump in capitalist countries and as a result of the formation in the world of a considerable extra tonnage, ordered during the shipping boom of the early seventies. Hence the fierce struggle for orders on freight and the more extensive utilisation of ships flying foreign flags by the monopolies, American monopolies included, which gives them greater advantages and allows to evade taxation.

Paul Hall's groundless insinuations are nothing but another attempt to blame the crisis of the merchant fleet of the USA and, by the way, of other capitalist countries, on the Soviet Union, thus justifying efforts to oust the state owned shipping companies of the Soviet Union from international freighting.

VARIATION TO ARTICLE ON U.S. OPINION POLL ON SALT, PRC

The following variation to the article entitled "U.S. Opinion Poll Cited on SALT, PRC Ties, Camp David" published in the 20 Dec Soviet Union DAILY REPORT page B2, is taken from Moscow PRAVDA 20 Dec page 5:

Page B 3, paragraphs two, and three from ... The New York...through ... this separate deal ... are omitted on the PRAVDA version.

POWER STRUGGLE CONTINUES AMONG PRC LEADERSHIP

ID221728Y Moscow TASS in English 1615 GMT 22 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, December 22, TASS--As shown by the facts, an acute power struggle is continuing within the Peking leadership. This is borne out, specifically, by the latest tatzupao (big character paper), which appeared in Peking the other day. As reported by the Japanese KYODO TSUSHIN news service, the authors of these tatzupao stress that they denounce as insolvent the statement by Teng Hsiao-ping, vice-chairman of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, who claims there is unity within the Chinese leadership. Criticizing at the same time the program of the "four modernizations", which, according to the authors, does not promise anything good to the Chinese people, the tatzupao recalls that the wages of Chinese workers have not been raised for the past twenty years and that the living standards of the farmers are practically on the same level as in the first years after China's liberation. Recalling about the experience of the 1958 "big leap", which, as generally known, suffered a fiasco, the authors question the realism of the new "program of modernization".

The tatzupao further puts in question the official version about the so-called "will of Mao Tse-tung", which is frequently quoted by the Chinese press. According to this version, Mao allegedly said addressing Hua Kuo-feng: "If business is in your hands, I am at peace," thereby transferring complete power to him, making Hua Kuo-feng his successor. However, in the opinion of the tatzupao authors, Mao, even if he had said this, was only expressing the hope that Hua Kuo-feng would protect his wife Chiang Ching and would not renounce Mao Tse-tung's earlier decision to criticize Teng Hsiao-ping.

COMMENTATOR SCORES VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN PRC

ID220532Y Moscow TASS in English 0519 GMT 22 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 22, TASS--Valentin Timoshin, a TASS political commentator, writes:

Lately the Chinese press launched a wide-scale campaign obviously intended for certain circles of the West, the campaign of ostentatious democratisation and liberalisation of Chinese society. Peking newspapers admit that in China there did occur violations of socialist legality and democratic rights of the people. At the same time, a reservation is being made that that was in the past and, besides, through the fault of the "four" whereas now the situation, they say, is being rectified. Chinese reality, however, exposes the entire falsity and demagogy of official Peking propaganda.

In present-day China where political campaigns of purges continue raging and a fierce tussle for power is under way, elementary human rights and freedoms are being violated and trampled every day. During the purges not only party and state workers but also common people--workers, peasants and intellectuals are being subjected to cruel persecutions.

Here is one of many examples.

A "propagandist detachment" for a long time committed outrages in one of communes of Linchuan District of Anhwei Province under the direction of the district committee of the Communist Party of China. The detachment fabricated cases and arrested with impunity innocent people. It must be noted that that took place recently, already after the notorious "four" were arrested and rendered harmless.

"Some cadre workers who are enthused over the fetishism of power regard the state apparatus as officialdom where power is a wealth for which it is necessary to fight", admits the newspaper PEOPLE'S DAILY. Such acknowledgements, however, do not alleviate the lot of many Chinese who suffer from the arbitrariness of such officials.

Elementary human rights, although they are formally declared by the Constitution of the PRC, are actually not guaranteed in any way. Some population categories defined as "class enemies" are being subjected to repressions up to this day in China. Most often punishments are being imposed on "political accused" without a court investigation. When trials of "political accused" are held they as a rule are staged in the form of mass public trials at which defense is practically ruled out. Thus, in Kwangtung Province, a certain He Chun-shu was executed recently. His crime was in distributing a leaflet which the court considered a counter-revolutionary one.

It is noteworthy that Chinese leaders started declaring sometimes in support of minimal guarantees of human rights, as was done recently by Yeh Chien-ying, chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress. Those promises, however, rather resemble demagogical gestures, and the West-oriented playing at democracy. The common Chinese, today as well, lives in the conditions of arbitrariness and lawlessness.

PRC SAID TO ADVOCATE U.S. PRESENCE IN KOREAN PENINSULA

LD251811Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in English to Asia 1330 GMT 25 Dec 78 LD

[Viktor Gradv commentary]

[Text] After the announcement was made about the United States and China planning to normalize their relations, many facts have become known about true nature of Chinese-American ties. Thus, for instance, the New York TIMES the other day reported that the United States President's national security adviser, Mr Brzezinski, during his visit to China, asked Peking leaders to try to persuade the Korean People's Democratic Republic to moderate its stand on South Korea. Viktor Gradv, a writer on international relations comments:

The very fact that Washington has made a request like that [word indistinct] to a sharp change in Peking foreign policy. One can hardly imagine there was a time when China, in pursuance of its internationalist duty, helped the Korean People's Democratic Republic fight the American aggressors.

Today the Peking leaders (?advocate) the American presence on the Korean peninsula. According to the Washington POST, American withdrawal from South Korea would extremely worry the Chinese. Meanwhile, it is commonly known that the Korean problem cannot be solved unless the Americans pull out from the peninsula. Together with their troops the Americans must pull out their huge supplies of arms, including nuclear arms, which have turned South Korea into a kind of a dangerous (?powder) keg. This is a move that the Seoul administration and its patrons overseas bitterly resist. (?They) [word indistinct] to it for fear of being left face to face with the people who hate the rotten regime. The latter, in defiance of the international situation try to entrench themselves in that strategically important area so as to continue to carry out their imperialist schemes in the Far East.

The government and public of the Korean People's Democratic Republic have repeatedly appealed to Seoul with proposals aimed at a peaceful and democratic reunification without any outside interference. On their initiative a peace dialog between Pyongyang and Seoul started in the summer of 1972. For its success Democratic Korea advanced an extensive program providing for the withdrawal of foreign troops from South Korea, elimination of military confrontation, and other measures to ensure lasting peace on the Korean peninsula. However, Seoul and its patrons have remained deaf to those constructive moves. It is a fact too that when the world public voiced support for the Pyongyang peace initiatives and called upon Seoul and Washington to respond to them, the Chinese propaganda preferred to keep silent. Not a single word came from Peking about Democratic Korea's peace moves. More than that, Vice Premier Teng Hsiao-ping, in a recent interview for the Washington POST correspondent, said the Chinese Government thought highly of South Korea's constructive stand. The matter is just another case when the Chinese leadership and the American imperialists find themselves on the [word indistinct] side of the barricade.

'HINTS' THAT USSR BEGIN 'UNILATERAL DISARMAMENT' REJECTED

LD271051Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 19 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[E. Alekseyev untitled International Review]

[Excerpt] AWACS, Pershing, and so Forth...

"I have read that the NATO countries have decided to create the AWACS system which they call an early warning system. What aims is this to serve?" asks I. Dzhabarov, senior operator at Baku's XII Syezd KPSS oil refinery.

NATO specialists do indeed call the AWACS system an "airborne early warning system." The decision to create this system was taken in early December by the NATO defense ministers in session at Evere (near Brussels). It will cost the NATO countries' taxpayers approximately \$2 billion.

But what form does the AWACS system take, and for what is it earmarked? The most up-to-date and sophisticated electronic equipment is installed on board aircraft. When an aircraft fitted with these devices flies along the border of any particular state this equipment is capable of carrying out electronic espionage by locking onto territory extending for a considerable distance inside this state. Thus, as an overt espionage device the AWACS system is a new link in the arms race being fueled by the NATO bloc.

In general the entire "Atlantic Week," during which sittings of all NATO's leading organs were held, took place under the flag of a further arms buildup. Many proposals for the additional long-term program drawn up at the NATO Council's May session in Washington, costing a total of \$80 billion, were concretized. Whereas this year the bloc's European members spent \$50 billion on military purposes, in the future, following Washington's example and demands, they have pledged to increase military appropriations by 3 percent annually.

Against this background the NATO propaganda myth about "the growing Soviet military threat" looks especially absurd. The Soviet Union is not seeking military superiority over the West. Our country has submitted a multitude of concrete proposals designed to curb the arms race and to start practical disarmament in line with the principles of equal security.

The Warsaw Pact member states recently issued a new and very important international document--the Moscow declaration. It is a detailed program for supplementing political detente with military detente and for imparting irreversibility to the entire process of restructuring interstate relations in line with the principles of peaceful coexistence.

While the NATO countries are continuing the arms race, some people are attempting to hint that it would be worthwhile for the Soviet Union to "set an example" and to start unilateral disarmament. Our country is ready for any practical steps in the disarmament sphere, but only under one chief condition--on the basis of the principles of equal security. Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said: "We shall not weaken our defense in the face of imperialism's growing military might whatever demagogic arguments may be used to conceal appeals for this. That would have irreparable consequences for the cause of socialism and for the cause of the peoples' freedom and independence."

SOVIET MEDIA CONTINUE TO COMMENT ON EVENTS IN IRAN

U.S. 'Military Intervention' Scored

LD261846Y Moscow in Persian to Iran 1130 GMT 19 Dec 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: According to a Pentagon spokesman, U.S. warships are participating in military maneuvers in the sea of Oman. They are joined there by warships from Britain, Iran and Pakistan--all members of the aggressive CENTO alliance, which was artificially concocted by the Western powers. The purpose of these maneuvers is entirely clear: They are designed to pressure the Iranian people--a people who, in their own country, are struggling against the bullying and aggressive acts of the imperialists and their puppets.

Displays of strength and military pressure are tried and true techniques that imperialist governments frequently use against the developing countries, including Iran. Our dear listeners will undoubtedly remember the Iranian people's prolonged struggle to nationalize their oil industry.

The Pentagon, by carrying out these military maneuvers along with other deeds, is seeking to intimidate the Iranian people and impose imperialist designs on them. Thus it hopes to enable Western monopolies to plunder Iran's oil wealth, supply Iran with military hardware and maintain unequal trade and business relations with it.

However, the news from Iran indicates that U.S. military pressure and flagrant intervention by the U.S. military in Iran's domestic affairs are inciting healthy Iranian national forces to increase their unity and cohesion in the anti-imperialist struggle.

It is extremely noteworthy that acts of mutiny have occurred, even in the army, which is under the control and supervision of tens of thousands of U.S. military advisers. Dragging the Iranian Army in to crush the people has strengthened the desire among the armed forces to support the people's just demands.

According to an AP correspondent, mutinous soldiers in one of the barracks housing a crack unit of the army in Tehran attacked the officers' quarters, where they opened fire with automatic rifles. As a result of this attack, at least 12 officers were killed and over 20 others wounded. Commenting on this report, the U.S. correspondent wrote: Iran's military heads are afraid that some of the troops and warrant officers, encouraged by opposition leaders, may use their weapons against their commanders.

Foreign agencies have reported from Tabriz that the soldiers who were mobilized to crush the demonstrators refrained from firing on the people and in fact joined them.

The U.S. military intervention in Iran's domestic affairs and its efforts to bring military pressure on the Iranian people and intimidate them is giving rise of a resurgence of anti-U.S. feeling in the country. For this reason, the participants in the huge demonstrations that are taking place daily in various Iranian cities, apart from chanting other slogans, are saying: "Yankees, get out!" "Iran should withdraw from the aggressive imperialist CENTO pact!"

Kulik Commentary

LD261852Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1731 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes: A large group of U. S. "specialists," who, according to reports in the Western press, will be engaged in gathering "firsthand" information on the situation in Iran, has arrived in Tehran. However, the fact that the staff of the CIA and similar departments predominate among the more than 60 newly arrived "specialists" coincides with the admission made by a State Department spokesman that the United States is holding talks on a new government in Iran, suggests the following conclusion: Washington is stepping up its interference in Iranian affairs, which are of a purely internal nature.

It is noteworthy that while the United States previously placed its main stake in Iran on maintaining the shah's regime, right now, taking account of real circumstances, Washington is letting it be understood more and more clearly that it is ready to sacrifice autarky for the sake of salvaging its economic and strategic positions in Iran.

The Washington POST admits that the matter is one of a more active U. S. role toward bringing the shah and the opposition closer together, especially on such questions as the future role of the Iranian Army, which was trained by Americans, and control over oil.

The U. S. specialists arriving in Iran--just like the staff of the U. S. Embassy in Tehran--will be meeting representatives of the political and religious opposition, seeking to single out people prepared to be included in a new government, but also to continue a pro-U.S. course.

Pursuing thus a two-faced policy by assuring the shah's regime of its support while at the same time openly preparing the ground for its replacement, many Western propaganda organs are masking Washington's ever-more intense interference in Iranian affairs with fabrications concerning "communist intrigues" and "Soviet agents" in Iran.

The inconsistency of such diversionary maneuvers by ill-intentioned Western circles is refuted by Iranian reality and by the unprecedented growth of an anti-American mood in Iran, whose people are coming out against Pentagon-hatched actions in Iran.

As for the Soviet Union, which maintains traditional neighborly relations with Iran and is interested in its stability and independence, its position is clear: Purely internal events are taking place in Iran, and questions connected with them must be solved by the Iranians themselves. Any interference in its affairs, particularly military, is impermissible.

Levin Commentary

LD270254Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[From the "International Diary" program by commentator Viktor Levin]

[Text] Yesterday evening, one Western diplomat, summing up the results of the stormy events in Iran, described the situation as very serious, adding: I reserve the word "critical" for tomorrow.

III. 27 Nov 78

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USSR INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS
MIDDLE EAST & NORTH AFRICA

"Tomorrow" has now begun, and it is being said in Tehran that the creation of a consultative council is to be discussed at today's session of the lower chamber of the Iranian parliament, the Majlis. It is thought in the Iranian capital that the resignation of the military government headed by General Azhari has been predetermined, and the name of the new prime minister which is consistently being given is that of Sadiqi, the former minister of the interior in the Mossadegh government. Suggestions are being made about the shah's temporary departure abroad--to one of the islands in the Persian Gulf--and about transferring the functions of the head of state to the consultative council.

But the "made in the United States" stamp can be seen fairly distinctly on all these plans. For here it is essentially a question of even less than half measures. The United States is ready to sacrifice the present monarch to retain the predominant influence in Iran of the Pentagon and the U. S. monopolies. But yesterday again showed that it is not all that easy to carry out such plans.

The popular masses, having risen up in struggle, are demanding radical changes. The slogan "Yankee Go Home" rang out louder than ever before in the streets of Tehran yesterday. Clashes between the police and troops on the one side and demonstrators on the other took place in at least 20 areas of the city. Again people were killed. The disturbances are embracing an increasing number of cities. The strike by oil industry workers is becoming more widespread. According to the latest data only 500 barrels of oil were extracted yesterday. This is not even 10 percent of the normal quantity. This strike testifies to the strength and resolve of the working class.

The development of events in Iran is going in two directions: From above, at the bidding of Washington, an attempt is being made to restrict matters to a cosmetic overhaul of the regime. From below, the wave of demands to destroy it is gaining momentum. Today these tendencies might collide. Then the explosion is unavoidable.

26 Dec Situation Report

ID261855Y Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] New York, December 26, TASS--The present situation in Iran is characterized by incessant anti-government actions and a powerful strike movement, which has actually paralysed the whole production activity in the country. Quoting foreign diplomats, a correspondent of the UNITED PRESS INTERNATIONAL agency in Tehran reports that oil output in Iran has gone down to 600 thousand barrels a day, which is only 10 percent of the usual level. More than 70 tankers are lying idle off the oil port of Khark in the Persian Gulf. The discharge of oil for export has been almost completely discontinued.

The strike is continuing at most industrial enterprises. Striking workers of power plants cut off electricity supply to Tehran and other cities after dark every day. The postal service is inoperative as before.

Nearly a million people went out into the streets of Mashhad today protesting against the massacre of opponents of the present regime by the army and police. Tempestuous anti-government demonstrations were held in Tehran today.

According to a dispatch by an ASSOCIATED PRESS correspondent, there were clashes between the police, troops and demonstrators in more than twenty places. Demonstrators set on fire tens of cars. According to the correspondent, during one of the clashes, intensive automatic and rifle fire continued for more than 20 minutes. Anti-government actions in Tehran today, as a spokesman for the authorities said, have been one of the biggest during the recent three months.

Reports on anti-government and anti-American demonstrations come from the town of Sanandaj as well as from Shahpur near the Turkish border. Soldiers and the police used tear-gas grenades and the so-called water cannons to disperse the demonstrations. Unrest swept Tabriz and Kerman. There are many killed and injured as a result of the clashes between the police, troops and the population.

A UPI correspondent reports on the mounting discontent with the policy of the regime among the troops, which are used for the suppression of peaceful anti-government demonstrations. Many soldiers refuse to obey the orders of their officers. Eyewitnesses say, he writes, that in a number of cases, yesterday there were brawls between soldiers, when some of them tried to prevent others from shooting at demonstrators.

The population of the capital and other cities of Iran is particularly indignant at the suspicious role of the United States in the developments of the country. Clashes are continuing for the fourth day in succession outside the U.S. Embassy building in Tehran between troops and demonstrators opposing the present regime and protesting against the U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the Iranian people, which is intensifying along with deepening of the crisis. According to the Western press, a large team of nearly 60 men including CIA and State Department men and representatives of a number of other American departments has arrived in Tehran. They are establishing contacts with the opposition leaders, including noted religious figures, striving to influence them, to persuade them to accept a "solution" acceptable to the United States, which is in itself interference in the internal affairs of the Iranian people.

The inability of the army and the military government to cope with the present crisis makes Iran's ruling circles speed up the quest for a way out of the present situation. The opposition insists as earlier on the shah's resignation. The leader of the opposition National Front, K. Sanjabi, refuses to join the "civilian" government being formed now, fearing to lose the support of religious figures, who are influential in the country.

Former Minister of the Interior Sadiqi, who was asked to form a new cabinet declares for the shah's temporary departure abroad or to an island in the Persian Gulf.

In this case, it is planned to turn over for a definite time the discharge of functions of the head of state to a consultative council with the participation of representatives of the military command, religious leaders, and political figures.

AS-SADAT INTENDS TO FOLLOW 'PATH OF SEPARATE DEALS'

LD271916Y Moscow TASS in English 1620 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, December 26, TASS--In his address on Cairo Television A.R.E. President as-Sadat reaffirmed his intention to follow the path of separate deals with Israel. He stressed that a "peace" treaty with Tel Aviv would be signed "sooner or later." As-Sadat recalled that the fundamentals for such a "peace" had already been outlined.

These pronouncements by As-Sadat are evaluated in the local political circles as a refutation of the propaganda claims that the Egyptian-Israeli separate talks are allegedly deadlocked.

Observers point out that as a matter of fact the Egyptian-Israeli deal is practically ready, and it is only with tactical aims that the sides are dragging feet on its finalizing.

In an attempt to camouflage his betrayal of the general Arab interests, the Egyptian president levelled attacks against the Arab states, which condemned Cairo's separate manoeuvres. Distorting the real state of things, As-Sadat accused the Arabs, that it is themselves and not he, who are allegedly responsible for splitting the united front of struggle against the Israeli aggression. It follows from the speech by the Egyptian leader that he was most exasperated by the results of the Baghdad Arab meeting summit, which resolutely rejected the Camp David deal of the USA, Egypt and Israel.

Clearly in an attempt to whitewash himself in the eyes of the Arab peoples, As-Sadat strongly "criticized" Israeli Prime Minister Begin, saying that the latter is an opponent of the Middle East settlement. It is pointed out in this connection here, that in the course of the more than one year old separate talks the Egyptian president has been lavish of praises for the leaders of the Israeli "hawks," and therefore, his present "critical" remarks will hardly mislead anyone. Characteristically, the Israeli side did not give any answer to them. On the contrary, congratulations to As-Sadat on the occasion of his 60th birthday written in a very courteous tone were read out on Israeli radio.

Amman, December 26, TASS--Speaking at the National Consultative Assembly, Jordanian Prime Minister M. Badran again pointed out that the Camp David accords are unacceptable and stressed they are in conflict with the decisions of the League of Arab States. That is precisely why they were rejected by the Baghdad summit meeting. The participants in the forum, the head of the Jordanian Government noted, have firmly pointed out that they will have nothing in common with the Camp David accords. The Arabs have also confirmed that a just peace in the Middle East can be established only on the basis of full liberation of the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and ensuring the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine.

New York, December 26, TASS--High-ranking Saudi Arabian representatives, the NEWSWEEK magazine writes, maintain now that the Geneva conference, whose co-chairmen are the USA and the Soviet Union, constitutes the right approach to the attainment of a comprehensive Middle East settlement.

ENORMOUS SOCIOECONOMIC PROBLEMS FACE EGYPT

LD261634Y Moscow TASS in English 1500 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, December 26, TASS--The approaching new year does not evoke the feeling of joy in Egyptians, whose hopes for the resolution of numerous day-to-day problems in the outgoing year have not come true.

The course for a Middle East "settlement" with Israel on a separate basis, which is pursued by the Egyptian leadership, has not brought about the desired results. Contrary to the promises of the authorities, the past year has not become a "year of peace" either for (?Egyptians) or for other peoples in that region. Practically all the Arab states have rejected separatism as a method of Middle East settlement and declared for strengthening collective Arab efforts. The course for the satisfaction of the appetites of the Israeli ruling circles is condemned by many public and political forces in Egypt itself, including the National Progressive (left-wing) Party, the leaders of the July revolution of 1952 and religious circles.

As a result of the course for the restoration of capitalism pursued by the authorities in the country, the delimitation of class forces has intensified and social conflicts have sharpened. The wealth of the parasitic bourgeoisie looks as crying injustice against the background of the disastrous position of millions of common Egyptians, to whom making both ends meet has become a difficult problem. Over the past year, Egypt put out products worth 1,000 million Egyptian pounds less than it consumed. Its foreign debts have reached the astronomic sum of nearly 12 billion dollars. The country has become dependent (?also) on American and West European capital. "Expenses" of the International Monetary Fund and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development has a decisive say in outlining economic policy. The transport problem, the housing crisis, unemployment and growth of prices have become chronic diseases of the Egyptian society.

COMMENTARY VIEWS PAST SOVIET AID TO EGYPT, ASWAN PROJECT

LD262028Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Unattributed commentary: "The Symbol of Fruitful Cooperation"]

[Excerpts] An agreement was signed 20 years ago in accordance with which the Soviet Union undertook to give the necessary aid and loans to Egypt for building the first stage of the Aswan hydrocomplex. This event can truly be described as one of the turning points in the history of Egypt. Soviet aid to Egypt in building the High Dam did not only assume great importance to Egypt, but it also considerably affected the destinies of many of the developing countries. We say this because we do not mean only the mere economic importance of that project, although that in itself is highly important. Suffice it to say that the High Dam has paid for itself more than fivefold. Furthermore, it was a glorious example for all the developing countries, representing the successful struggle of a country that marched on the path of independent development against the forces of imperialism and reaction. As a result of the success of the Aswan project, the complete ideological system of influence set up by colonialism collapsed.

The High Dam project was in fact the first of its kind in the developing countries. Not only did it cement Egypt's economy, but it also cemented its international prestige. The statement on the completion of the Aswan hydrocomplex, which was signed in 1971 by the leaders of the Soviet Union and Egypt, noted that Aswan had become a true example of sound and equal relations among states, and was shining proof that the young developing countries can achieve much success in consolidating their independence politically and economically in cooperation with the socialist countries.

There is no doubt that Egypt's July revolution constituted a decisive beginning for the Aswan project, since it made it possible for the Egyptian people to liquidate colonialism and develop their creative capabilities for progress and prosperity. It is rather significant that following the present Egyptian leadership's abandonment of the principles of the 1952 July revolution and of cooperation with the USSR, Egyptian economic development plans have not contained any project that can measure up to the High Dam. But the Egyptians still remember what late President 'Abd an-Nasir said about the High Dam and about cooperation with the Soviet Union: We shall never forget the Soviet Union's aid in building the High Dam, which was the dream and hope of all of us. The High Dam was a vital issue to us; it was the foundation of the people's demands and aspirations. The High Dam will remain for centuries a symbol of Arab-Soviet friendship--an honest and ambition-free friendship, a friendship aimed at higher ideals and based on noble principles.

MOSCOW REPORTS ON UNREST, MARTIAL LAW IN TURKEY

LD252249Y Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 25 Dec 78 LD

[Ankara correspondent (Ehsan) Mustafayev) dispatch]

[Summary] The Turkish press reports that during provocations by reactionaries the buildings of progressive organizations and parties in Kharamanmaras have been destroyed. According to preliminary figures more than 500 buildings have been demolished or burned down. Citizens have been forced to flee while some have found refuge in government offices protected by guards. DUNYA says the provocations were sponsored by a National Action Party MP (Uzhash) and profascist cutthroats who came with him from Ankara. A statement of democratic organizations denounces the rightwing attempts to aggravate tension in the country. "The interior minister, Ozaydinli, urgently arrived in the city, and army units have been called in. Prime Minister Ecevit has described the events as extremely upsetting. He said they were the result of religious strife. It's significant that terror against progressive and democratic organizations in the country has intensified over the past few months. The newspaper TERCUMAN reports that this year alone about 1,000 people have died as a result of provocations by extremists. Among the arrested on charges of terrorism and anarchy action is a large number of members of Maoist, ultraright and openly fascist organizations. The situation in Kharamanmaras continues to be tense."

Imposition of Martial Law

LD262340Y Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1400 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Martial law has been proclaimed in Istanbul and 12 other Turkish towns. The Turkish Government has explained its decision to proclaim martial law in these towns as necessary because of disturbances and continuation of clashes in the streets. Actions by extreme rightists and Maoists in Maras have led to these incidents. About 100 persons have died as a result of the events in Kharamanmaras.

[Moscow TASS in English at 0748 GMT on 27 Dec 78 reports the following: "Turkey's Grand National Assembly has approved by a majority vote the decision of the Council of Ministers on the imposition of martial law in 13 departments of the country for a term of two months. Addressing the session of the Grand National Assembly, Turkish Prime Minister B. Ecevit noted that the government had been forced to have recourse to this measure in view of the recently stepped up acts of terrorism by the rightwing forces jeopardizing the state's integrity and unity. He stressed that martial law will be used for restoring public order without restricting the country's democratic rights and freedom."]

TASS REPORTS EXPLOSIONS IN ATHENS, GOVERNMENT MEETING

LD190325Y Moscow TASS in English 2223 GMT 18 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Athens, December 18, TASS--On the night of December 18, the Greek capital was shaken by about 50 explosions. As a result 7 persons have been wounded and over 5 cars damaged. According to the local press, what is in question is a carefully organized provocation staged by right-wing elements in order "to destabilize the situation in the country." The Greek Government has been seriously alarmed by the wanton act of the extremists. Under the chairmanship of Prime Minister K. Karamanlis, a meeting was held here with the participation of the ministers of justice, and public order, Greek supreme court procurator, and chiefs of the gendarmerie and the police. The meeting considered measures to put an end to the terrorist activities. Greek progressive public and the trade unions expressed their indignation over the provocation demanding that the government take effective steps against its organizers.

PRETORIA'S POLITICAL STRATEGY IN NAMIBIA ELECTIONS SCORED

LD262134Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Botha, South African minister of foreign affairs, has sent two messages to Waldheim, secretary general of the United Nations, about Namibia.

One of the messages says that the South African authorities and the so-called leaders of South-West Africa agree to carry out the UN plan for Namibia. But our attention is drawn to the fact that racist South Africa, which is illegally occupying Namibia, (?openly) refused to submit to UN decisions as recently as last October, and as recently as the beginning of December held unilateral elections in Namibia--a step that was counter to a Security Council resolution.

The staged elections were held at a time when Namibian territory was occupied by South African troops and in an atmosphere of mass repression and terror. The result of the elections was announced beforehand: As expected the winners were declared to be the puppets of the so-called Democratic Turnhalle Alliance, a political bloc put together by the racists themselves. And these are the people whom South African foreign minister is calling the leaders of South-West Africa.

But the real leaders of the Namibian people, the leaders and members of SWAPO, are being put in prison, tortured, eliminated or discredited as terrorists. SWAPO has been recognized by the United Nations as the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people. This decision was strengthened in the latest resolutions on Namibia adopted by the 33d session of the UN General Assembly. The documents of the session state quite clearly that the unilateral elections of Namibia held in South Africa [announcer corrects himself] the holding of unilateral elections in Namibia by South Africa is of no legal force.

So now, in an attempt to achieve international recognition for the results of these pseudo-elections, the racists, counter to their former policy, are declaring their agreement with the UN plan for Namibia. But at the same time, through the mouths of their puppets, they are demanding--and demanding as a sine qua non--that the United Nations disassociate itself publicly from SWAPO if the latter does not stop its struggle.

This is what Botha's second message is about. We, it says, declare the puppets from the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance to be these elected by the people, and we are ready to cooperate with the United Nations, and, it would be better to ignore SWAPO if the United Nations wants a speedy solution to the Namibian question. This is the essence, not only of the two messages, but in the final analysis of the whole political game being played by Pretoria and the West in Namibia.

DTA'S ACCEPTANCE OF UN ELECTIONS IN NAMIBIA EXPLAINED

LD231408Y Moscow TASS in English 1309 GMT 23 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 23, TASS--TASS political observer Sergey Kulik writes:

Western agencies report from Windhoek that the so-called Democratic Turnhalle Alliance (DTA), which won the elections recently held by the racialists and not recognized by the United Nations Organization, has agreed to accept the plan of the United Nations Organization leading to the attainment of independence by the country. The statement by South African Prime Minister P. Botha, who "recommended that the DTA accept the U.N. plan," is described as a "sensation of the day."

Meanwhile it is noteworthy that the propaganda ballyhoo around this stand of the racialists is aimed at camouflaging the main thing: the strings attached to the acceptance of the U.N. plan, which practically reduce its essence to a nought.

In the first place, the DTA, which won the "elections" solely due to the support of the South African Army and the police, forcing the electors to vote for the placemen of the racialists, is from now on posed for an organization which allegedly received from the population of Namibia the mandate to speak on its behalf. Meanwhile, as was repeatedly stressed in the U.N. decisions, the sole legitimate representative of the African majority in Namibia is the South West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO), which was barred by the racialists from participation in the "elections".

While "accepting" by word of mouth the U.N. plan providing for the holding in Namibia of truly free elections under the observance of the international organization, the DTA actually strives for further barring SWAPO from any part in deciding the country's destiny. Thus the DTA existing on Pretoria's subsidies an end to U.N. financial aid to SWAPO.

While advocating the continued stay of the racist troops in the territory of South West Africa, DTA leader Dirk Mudge declares against the sending to Namibia of 7,500 U.N. soldiers to maintain order and demands that their number be reduced to a symbolic figure. The point at issue is thus an attempt to turn the participation of the United Nations Organization in the resolution of the Namibian problem in a smokescreen of some kind, under whose cover a fresh farce of elections is to be staged according to a racist scenario in South-West Africa.

One cannot help noting the double dealing stand of the West towards Namibia. The USA, Britain, France, the FRG and Canada, who undertook the initiative of the Namibian settlement and hold endless rounds of talks with Pretoria, are only trying to picture things as if a settlement of the country's future is starting. But as a matter of fact, they are marking time in order to enable the racialists to strengthen the positions of their placemen and thus weaken SWAPO. Only the implementation of the U.N. resolutions demand that the power in Namibia be turned over into the hands of genuine representatives of the African majority may prevent the turning of that country into a new dangerous seat of international tensions.

16 UNITA SABOTEURS ARRESTED IN ANGOLAN PROVINCE

LD221556Y Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 22 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Luanda, December 22, TASS--Sixteen members of the separatist puppet grouping UNITA have been arrested in the south Angolan province of Huambo. According to the national ANGOP news agency, they were carrying out acts of sabotage and subversion in the province, killing village residents. The bandits' cache, containing mines and explosives, supplied by the South African racialists has also been found.

PRC BLAMED FOR INCREASING INSURGENCY IN BURMA

EK271026Y Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1430 GMT 26 Dec 78 BK

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: We have received reports from Rangoon about insurgents under Peking's influence intensifying their subversive activities in Burma. Only recently, the news agency of Burma reported that the train from Rangoon to Mandalay was derailed after it hit a mine planted by insurgents. Some of the passengers were wounded.

One day after that news was reported, the [Rangoon] GUARDIAN announced that the government was launching Operation Gallant Victory to suppress the insurgents. The newspaper reported that in recent clashes, two Shan insurgent groups operating in Northern Shan State under the leadership of a Peking-influenced group were crushed.

According to reports reaching us, we have learned that insurgents are carrying out subversive activities not only in remote border areas but also in central Burma. The insurgents are attacking not only government army bases but also innocent civilians. For instance, the train which hit a landmine was carrying ordinary commuters, including women and children. It seems that the insurgents do not care about this at all. The merciless torturing of peasants and their families, arson, robbery, and so forth, come very natural to them.

The insurgents are simply following Peking's orders to create a tense situation and disorder in Burma. This is nothing new. For more than 10 years now, the antigovernment forces under various assumed names have been carrying out subversive activities in Burma with material and moral support from Peking.

The ultraracialists, leftists and extreme rightists are all receiving financial support, weapons, ammunition and propaganda material from China. If one sifts through Burmese newspapers and publications, one can find proof to support this observation. It is not just the Burmese publications--even foreign publications like the TIMES OF INDIA reported earlier this year that there is not one chance in a million that China will reduce its support for the insurgents in Burma. France's LE FIGARO has also reported that Burmese rebels are operating out of bases inside China, that the Peking leaders welcome rebel leaders like honored guests and that a clandestine radio station inside China is broadcasting programs to instigate the Burmese people to fight against their own government.

Everybody knows that the Burmese Government has made firm gestures to solve the insurgency problem, which is a thorn in the side of Sino-Burmese relations. No response has been made to the Burmese Government's gestures in spite of the fact that Peking has given assurances of its friendly relations with Burma. Why is it happening this way? The answer is that the Chinese leaders are not satisfied with Burma, which is pursuing an independent, non-aligned policy and which refuses to follow China's chosen path of opposing a third country. We can only draw the conclusion that the Burmese rebels' intensified activities represent another of Peking's threats against Burma, which is an obstacle to China's hegemonic designs.

COMMENTARY PRAISES USSR-SRV TREATY, SRV FOREIGN POLICY

OW221255Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1300 GMT 20 Dec 78 OW

[Larcev commentary]

[Text] World public opinion approves of the SRV's bold, positive policy and line. The policy of peace and cooperation being followed by Vietnam is consolidating its international position and contributing to assuring favorable conditions for socialist construction at home. The USSR-SRV treaty of friendship and cooperation that was recently ratified in Hanoi and Moscow is fully compatible with these tasks, as well as with the foreign policy principles of the late President Ho Chi Minh. The treaty aims at serving the cause of socialist and communist construction in both countries. It was signed by two equal and independent countries and does not contain a single word that would compel either party to defer to the other.

Recently, in an interview given to Japan's YOMIURI SHIMBUN, Comrade Nguyen Duy Trinh, SRV vice premier and foreign minister, stressed that the treaty is not a military alliance and that it does not harm the interests of any third country. It is fully compatible with the cause of peace and security in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world.

Thus, no one is being distracted by the dirty slander campaign against Vietnam being conducted by the Chinese authorities in connection with the USSR-SRV treaty. Moreover, all of progressive mankind has clearly seen that the rulers in Peking are the frantic enemy of peace and detente. They consider a sovereign Vietnam carrying out an independent policy as an obstacle to their expansionist schemes in Southeast Asia.

World public opinion resolutely condemns the armed provocations carried out by the Chinese militarists at the Vietnamese border and Peking's use of the Kampuchean lackeys in its policy against Vietnam. Nowadays, no one of sound mind doubts that the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary dictators have committed genocide against the Kampuchean people and caused the border conflict with Vietnam at the orders and with the direct assistance of the Peking authorities.

The historic fate of the Kampuchean and Vietnamese peoples has been bound together for generations. The Vietnamese and Kampuchean patriotic fighters' solidarity gloriously withstood all trials and hardships during the years of resistance against U.S. aggression. Today, the patriotic fighters of the Kampuchean National United Front for National Salvation consider as one of their primary tasks ending the border conflict and maintaining normal, neighborly relations with Vietnam. For this reason, Comrade Nguyen Duy Trinh stressed in his interview that Vietnam is supporting the United Front, which is implementing an independent policy.

Dear friends, the Soviet people are very happy about the achievements Vietnam has registered in its foreign policy. Comrade Brezhnev has said: We are internationalists, and the successes of fraternal Vietnam, the successes of every socialist country, can only give us joy. The Soviet people see in these achievements a common gain for the cause of peace and social progress.

PRC'S ATTEMPT TO INTIMIDATE VIETNAM WILL FAIL

ID261510Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 26 Dec 78 ID

[Text] On 22 December, the Chinese authorities broke off completely all rail links with Vietnam. Our correspondent in Hanoi Leonid Krichevskiy reports:

The unilateral decision to break the rail links is one more demonstration of Peking's policy of expansionism and of unprincipled attempts to impose its will on other countries. It is one more effort to put crude pressure on Vietnam, to force it to renounce its present political course and to intimidate the Vietnamese people.

It is well known that the railway that passes through China links Vietnam with other countries. It has carried goods from the Soviet Union, the other socialist countries, and also from many other countries of the world, destined for the peaceful restoration of the Vietnamese economy and for socialist construction in that country, which was for many years subjected to imperialist aggression. Naturally, the halting of rail traffic will create considerable extra difficulties for the economy of Vietnam, and make it more difficult to supply the population with food and other essential goods.

Peking obviously calculates that the transportation problems will slow down the rate of fulfillment of the 5-year plan and the building of important economic installations. In assessing this openly hostile act by the Chinese authorities, one must recall that Peking has in the past repeatedly attempted to obstruct the passage of goods to Vietnam via China. That was the case even in the hardest moments of the selfless struggle of the Vietnamese people against the American aggressors. Today, there is something else that should be remembered: In its attempt to crush the Vietnamese people, in May 1972 the Pentagon mined the approaches to Vietnamese ports to cut off supplies to Vietnam by sea. The present decision by the Peking authorities is really no different than what the American administration did then. Yet Peking has not learned the lesson of that vain attempt: that socialism cannot be crushed by any blockade. The Vietnamese people have true friends who--as has happened more than once--will give aid and assistance in difficult circumstances.

CORRESPONDENT REPORTS ON VIETNAMESE ASSEMBLY SESSION

LD252104Y Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 25 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The fourth meeting of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has been in session since 22 December. Our Hanoi correspondent, Leonid Krichevskiy, sent this report:

The attention of the deputies is focused on advancing the country's economy. Despite the complicated situation created in Indochina by Peking, the Vietnamese people are striving to implement their 5-year plan and raise their living and cultural standards. The facts and figures reported by the deputy prime minister, Le Thanh Nghi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Vietnamese Communist Party Central Committee, show that in the first 3 years of the plan the country has been vigorously moving ahead in all spheres of industry and farming.

The session of the National Assembly discussed the draft state plan for 1979 to promote the implementation of the 5-year program. Next year, gross national output is to increase by 12 percent; investment in building by 5 percent; the output of electric power by 8 percent, of coal by 21 percent and the production of cement by 21 percent. The plan provides for furthering the development of virgin lands and new economic regions and for completing in the main the involvement of farmers of the southern provinces in cooperatives.

The decision of the Chinese government to stop economic and technical aid to Vietnam and to recall its specialists has done considerable damage to the country's economy this year. Construction work at many facilities was stopped just before they could be put into operation. However, the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance Vietnam has joined came to its help. The Soviet Union and other socialist countries will help Vietnam complete the construction of most of the facilities treacherously abandoned by the Chinese.

The landmark of the outgoing year was the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and the Soviet Union. Chairman of the Standing Committee of Vietnam's National Assembly, Truong Chinh, a member of the Political Bureau of Vietnam's Communist Party, opening the fourth session of the assembly, said that the treaty opened a new stage in (covering) all-round Soviet-Vietnamese cooperation. The treaty serves the cause of peace and meets the interests of both the Vietnamese and the Soviet people.

SRV FOREIGN MINISTRY NOTE ON BORDER GUARDS REPORTED

LD261638Y Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, December 26, TASS--The Socialist Republic of Vietnam declares a resolute protest against the incursion by the Chinese Armed Forces into Vietnam's territory in Kaolang Province and the capture of four Vietnamese frontier guards, says the note of the Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam handed in to a representative of the Chinese Embassy in Hanoi. It resolutely condemns the criminal actions of the Chinese authorities against the Vietnamese people. The Foreign Ministry of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam demands that the four Vietnamese frontier guards be immediately returned. Chinese ruling circles must put an end to actions violating Vietnam's sovereignty and territorial integrity as well as the armed provocations and bloodshed in the border areas, says the note.

ROK ASSEMBLY ELECTION TERMED 'HACKNEYED COMEDY'

SK240954Y Moscow in Korean to Korea 0930 GMT 22 Dec 78 SK

[Text] Another hackneyed comedy was staged recently in South Korea in connection with the so-called "general election of national assemblymen."

The plan of the South Korean regime was to have the recent election racket show the world that democratic rights and freedom, including the freedom to express opinions, were guaranteed even under the [word indistinct] of the dictator Pak Chong-hui. However, the broad segments in South Korea evaluate this election racket as another (? sign) that the Seoul dictator intended to consolidate the present South Korean regime and give the South Korean regime at least a facade of (? legitimacy).

The Pak Chong-hui regime tries to pass off the voting results as a victory for its supporters. But no one would accept this.

The so-called election and its preparation were conducted under the longstanding "state of emergency." Numerous draconian laws ban any criticism of the incumbent regime. Over 100 opposition party candidates were put on trial or detained. This fact alone is eloquent proof.

In spite of such shameless suppression of democratic freedom, the general election racket produced only unsuccessful results. This can be proven by the single fact that only some 4.5 million out of the total 19.5 million voters voted for the government party candidates. Over three-fourths of the eligible voters in South Korea either did not go to the polls or voted for opposition or independent candidates.

However, this does not mean that the supporters of Pak Chong-hui will become a minority in the National Assembly. Today, in accordance with the constitution forced upon the South Korean people, only two-thirds of the total 232 delegates are elected; the remainder are appointed from among the most active supporters of the Seoul dictator. Therefore, in spite of such an unfavorable voting outcome, the victory of the government party in the election was preordained.

Representatives of opposition parties and various social and religious groups condemned the illegal and fraudulent election in which the victory of the supporters of Pak Chong-hui was guaranteed. According to reports from South Korea, the struggle against the dictatorial regime has become more active.

Cabinet Reshuffle Noted

SK240955Y Moscow in Korean to Korea 1330 GMT 22 Dec 78 SK

[Text] According to news agency reports from Seoul, the South Korean dictator Pak Chong-hui announced a cabinet reshuffle today. Minister of Economic Planning Nam Tok-u and many vice ministers responsible for economic development have been replaced.

Commentators say that Pak Chong-hui aims to blame them for the state of economic confusion. This state of economic confusion includes inflation, soaring prices, increased taxes and export difficulties.

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TASS NOTES ELECTION OF FIRST PRESIDENT OF DOMINICA

LD221330Y Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 22 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Georgetown, December 22, TASS--Fred Degazon has been elected by the Parliament of Dominica as first president of the island state in the Caribbean, which gained independence on November 3 this year. Fred Degazon has replaced in the post of the head of state the governor, who represented in the island the administration of Britain, whose possession Dominica earlier was.

BORDER DISPUTE BETWEEN CHILE, ARGENTINA REPORTED

LD231438Y Moscow TASS in English 0917 GMT 23 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Buenos Aires, December 23, TASS--In a note addressed to the Chilean foreign minister, Argentinian Foreign Minister Carlos Pastor accused Chile of "lack of flexibility" at the talks on the border dispute between the two countries. The conflict of old standing between the two neighbour states over the Beagle Channel and three small islands in its mouth particularly sharpened last year, when the Royal Arbitration Tribunal of Britain, which appeared in the role of a mediator, passed a decision in Chile's favour. Argentina refused to recognize this decision noting that it was passed under the pressure of British and American monopolies, whom Pinochet promised that the rich oil deposits struck in the area of the Beagle Channel would be placed under their actual control. At present, warships of the two countries have been sent to the Beagle Channel area, military units are re-deployed along the Argentinian-Chilean border. The armed forces of Chile and Argentina have been alerted.

In its dispute with Argentina, the junta strives to gain the support of Washington, its main "patron" giving lavish military and economic aid to the fascist regime. A week ago Pinochet suggested that the U.S. administration send its "observers" to the area of the disputable islands. Today, the clique decided to use one more diplomatic lever, to produce the so-called Inter-American Reciprocal Assistance Treaty of 1947. Under the treaty, signed by 19 states of the American Continent, including the USA, "aggression" against one of these states is regarded as "aggression" against all of the treaty member nations. The Chilean representative at the Organization of American States demanded on Thursday the convocation of the consultative meeting of the states which signed the reciprocal assistance treaty to examine the border dispute with Argentina.

PELSHE, DEMICHEV HONOR CUBAN REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

LD252101Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1821 GMT 25 Dec 78 LD

[Text] A festive gathering was held in Moscow today for representatives of the public to mark liberation day--the 20th anniversary of the Cuban revolution. Present in the presidium were Pelshe, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, and other officials. Comrade Demichev, who delivered a report, conveyed congratulations to the Cuban people from the CPSU Central Committee, the Soviet Government and from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev personally. He noted that the victory of the Cuban revolution was a constituent part of the world revolutionary process begun by great October. The heroic standard bearers of the Cuban revolution led by Fidel Castro became a decisive victorious force because the people of Cuba, oppressed and exploited masses abhorring foreign oppression and wishing genuine real freedom and independence of their homeland from the bottom of their hearts, stood behind them. A month of Soviet-Cuban friendship began in our country today in connection with the 20th anniversary of the Cuban revolution.

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U.S. CONTINUES ECONOMIC, MILITARY AID TO 'BUTCHER' SOMOZA

LD271040Y Moscow TASS in English 0927 GMT 27 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Washington, December 27, TASS--TASS correspondent Yuriy Levchenko reports: Trying to put up a diplomatic front for its plan for the "settlement" of the Nicaraguan crisis, the U.S. administration publicises in every way possible to American and world public its "differences" with Somoza dictator.

On Tuesday, the State Department expressed "regret" over the fresh "refusal" of Somoza to hold a "plebiscite" with the aim of a "peace settlement" of the conflict in Nicaragua, that was drawn up in Washington. Newsmen were told that American "mediator" William Bowdler was returning to Managua for further talks with the "Nicaraguan leader."

The demarche of the State Department followed "urgent consultations" in the U.S. administration on the situation in Nicaragua, after which it was declared that Washington's "mediatory efforts" in that Central American country had run into serious difficulties.

Observers point out in this connection that the outcry over "differences" between Somoza and the U.S. administration was a matter of fact started with the sole aim of convincing the Nicaraguan and Latin American public to agree to holding a "plebiscite" in Nicaragua and thus prevent a new popular uprising and the coming of the country's patriotic forces to power. They point out that the official Washington, which has launched a noisy campaign in "defense of human rights," has never declared for removing from power dictator Somoza, who drowned in blood the popular uprising in Nicaragua in autumn this year. Moreover, acting to the accompaniment of "criticism" against the "intransigent" dictator, the U.S.A. is continuing its lavish economic and military aid to the butcher of the Nicaraguan people. The officers of Somoza's National Guards underwent special training at the Pentagon's educational establishments. It was based on documents, at the recent hearings at the U.S. Congress that the dictator's punitive forces made short work of the popular uprising by means of U.S.-made weapons.

It was under pressure of public opinion, that the White House was forced to declare an end to military and economic aid to the Somoza regime. But, in fact, as Congressman Thomas Downey said, the USA continues military aid to Somoza using with this aim "commercial" channels. In the opinion of the legislator, the "deals" can be assessed only as Washington's support for the authoritarian regimes, as direct participation of the United States in crude violations of human rights.

BRIEFS

USSR-JAMAICA AIR SERVICE--Georgetown, December 26, TASS--An agreement on the establishment of air services between the Soviet Union and Jamaica, a state situated on an island in the Caribbean, was signed in Jamaica's capital, Kingston. Jamaica's public information agency points out that the signing of the agreement promotes the widening of cooperation between the two countries and will help develop tourism. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1729 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD]

KAPITONOV ATTENDS FIRST MEETING OF ELECTORAL COMMITTEE

LD261820Y Moscow TASS in English 1721 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 26, TASS--The first meeting of the Central Electoral Committee for elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet, the highest legislative body of the country, was held here. The elections were appointed for March 4.

The committee, which includes representatives of workers, peasants, scientists, literary workers, party and state leaders, considered questions connected with the preparations for this important political event, which takes place in accordance with the new USSR Constitution. The committee heard a report of Secretary of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Mikhail Georgadze on the form of ballot papers and on providing the necessary documents for the coming elections.

The secretary of the Central Committee, Ivan Kapitonov, pointed to the important role of other electoral committees that are to deal with organizing elections in various localities. In accordance with the new electoral law, their powers and composition have been widened. This makes it possible to involve the widest sections of the population in the holding of the election campaign.

The committee also heard reports of ministers and other responsible officials that are to ensure communications, means of transportation and other technical means for the election campaign in the USSR. The state bears all expenditures for the holding of election campaign in the USSR.

[Moscow TASS in English at 1034 GMT on 27 December reports that "General Secretary of the CPSU CC, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin and other leaders of the Communist Party and the Soviet state have been nominated to run for deputies of the USSR Supreme Soviet. A new stage has begun in the election campaign in the Soviet Union today--the nomination of candidates to run for deputies of the highest body of state authority. The first election meetings were held at industrial enterprises, institutions, collective farms of all the 15 union republics. The workers, peasants and intellectuals name as candidates their best representatives, who distinguished themselves in work, displayed great abilities and vigour in public and state activities, and enjoy high prestige." In another report on Supreme Soviet nominations, Moscow TASS in English at 1104 GMT on 27 December adds that Leonid Brezhnev "was nominated at election meetings of work collectives of Moscow's Baumanskiy Electoral District for elections to the Soviet of the Union, one of the two chambers of the Soviet parliament."]

Moscow Electoral Commission Begins Work

LD261828Y Moscow TASS in English 1715 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] Moscow, December 26, TASS--TASS commentator Leonid Schevtsov writes: Konstantin Malin, blacksmith of the Likhachov autoworks, has been appointed chairman of the Moscow City District Commission for elections to the Soviet of Nationalities, one of the two chambers of the Soviet parliament, having equal rights. The commission endorsed by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, in whose territory Moscow is situated, includes representatives of public organizations and work collectives: railwayman Victor Sokolov, composer Serafim Tulikov, lecturer of a medical institute Yuriy Lopukhin, prima of the operetta theatre Tatyana Schmyga.

A district commission has a lot of work to do. It keeps an eye on the observance in the district of the election law, supervises the work of divisional electoral commissions, hears reports of local state and public organisations on questions in connection with the election campaign, examines the applications and complaints by the electorate. Under the law, all the state and public organisations, enterprises and officials are obliged to contribute to the work of the commission. The electoral commissions must inform the population about their decisions and undertakings. The meetings of the commission may be attended by representatives of public organisation and enterprises, mass media, radio and television. They are guaranteed the right to familiarise themselves with the activity of district commissions at all stages of the election campaign.

REPUBLICAN CP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLenums REPORTED

Armenian Party Plenum

LD221137Y Yerevan KOMMUNIST in Russian 14 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] An Armenian CP Central Committee plenum was held 13 December 1978. The plenum discussed the question "On the Republic Party Organization's Tasks To Fulfill the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum Decisions and the Instructions Put Forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, in His Speech at the Plenum." The report was delivered by Comrade K.S. Demirehyan, first secretary of the Armenian CP Central Committee.

The plenum also heard reports from Comrade G.S. Sagoyan, deputy chairman of the Armenian SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Armenian SSR Gosplan, "On the Armenian SSR's 1979 State Economic and Social Development Plan" and from Comrade Dzhanoyan, Armenian SSR minister of finance, "On the 1979 Armenian SSR State Budget and the Implementation of the 1977 Armenian SSR State Budget."

The plenum adopted appropriate resolutions on the questions discussed. With this the Armenian CP Central Committee plenum ended.

Azerbaijan Party Plenum

LD221611Y Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 15 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] A routine Azerbaijan CP Central Committee plenum was held 14 December. The plenum discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the republic party organization's tasks arising out of its decisions and the plenum speech by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The report on this question was delivered by Comrade G.A. Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee.

A resolution was adopted on the question under discussion.

The plenum heard reports by Comrade A.M. Kadyrov, deputy chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Gosplan, on the draft state plan for the economic and social development of Azerbaijan SSR in 1979, and by Comrade B.G. Bakhshaliyev, Azerbaijan minister of finance, on the Azerbaijan SSR draft state budget for 1979.

The plenum approved in the main the Azerbaijan SSR draft state plan for economic and social development and the draft budget for 1979. The closing speech was delivered by Comrade G.A. Aliyev.

[Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 15 December 1978 carries on pages 1-4 a 21,000-word account of G.A. Aliyev's report at the 14 December Azerbaijan CP Central Committee Plenum "On the Results of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the Republic Party Organization's Tasks Arising Out of Its Decisions and the Plenum Speech by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and Chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium." The account contains the following passages:

["The republic's industry has considerably overfulfilled 5-year-plan targets on increasing output. At the same time, according to the results of the 3 years of the 5-year plan, 25 percent of all production associations and enterprises, the Ministry of Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry (Minister Comrade Akimov); the Ministry of Light Industry (Minister Comrade Melikov); the Ministry of Food Industry (Minister Comrade Mamedov); the Kasporneftegazprom Association (General Director Comrade Suleymanov); the Sumgaitskimprom Association (Chief Comrade Mustafayev); the Bakiyelektroubypribor Association (General Director Comrade Agayev); the Ministry of Rural Construction and a number of others are lagging behind the set targets. Their industrial production shortfall is equivalent to R336 million." The account goes on to note that "since the beginning of the 5-year plan, losses of oil during extraction, storage, transportation and processing have greatly exceeded the set norms" and also contains the following passage on the oil industry: "Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum stresses the exceptional importance of further developing the oil and gas industry. However, since the start of the 5-year plan the Azneft Association (General Director Comrade Gadzhiyev) and the Kasporneftegazprom Association (General Director Comrade Suleymanov) have failed to hand over for refining more than 3.4 million tons of oil and have underfulfilled the plan for increasing stocks by 82 million tons. A great drilling lag has built up and other technical and economic indicators are low.

["In 1979, oil extraction in the republic will increase by 88,000 tons compared with the current year. This includes increases of 30,000 tons at the Azneft Association and 58,000 tons at the Kasporneftegazprom Association. This increase will result primarily from the prompt provision of wellhead facilities, intensive development of and assimilation of the Muradkhanly, Zagly-Seyva, Bakhar and Bulla-More areas, and the development of new, promising deposits. At the same time, it is necessary to intensify engineering work on the existing stock of wells, improve the effectiveness of geological survey work and introduce progressive operating methods on a wide scale.

["A new stage is beginning in the lives of the marine oilmen. Recently, the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers adopted a special resolution envisaging acceleration of work on prospecting and extracting oil beneath the sea. In accordance with the resolution, the Kasporneftegazprom Association, which, incidentally, now comes under the USSR Ministry of Gas Industry, has the job of developing marine oil extraction throughout the Caspian basin. The management structure is being improved; additional production subunits are being created, and measures on further improving marine oilmen's working and everyday conditions are being outlined. The association has big and complex tasks to accomplish and we hope that its collective will make every effort to cope with them.

["The fulfillment of the new tasks requires a considerable intensification of party leadership of the work of oil and gas extraction and drilling enterprises on the part of the Baku Gorkom and appropriate party raykoms and it will be necessary to step up the activity of primary party organizations and give them the requisite assistance.

["The republic's refiners have a lot to do in the remaining part of the 5-year plan. In 1979, it is planned to refine more than the expected amount of oil in the current year, which, however, is considerably less than that envisaged by the 5-year plan. The leadership of the republic Ministry of the Petroleum-Refining and Petrochemical Industry must work hard to increase oil deliveries and to unconditionally utilize all allocated funds. In the current year, mainly because of inefficiency in its activity, there has been a shortfall of 400,000 tons of oil compared with the plan. At the same time, taking into account the limited raw material resources, it is necessary to bring into play such important reserves for improving production efficiency as the maximum use of potential resources and raw material, the intensification of its processing and the sharp reduction of losses of oil and petroleum products.

["We cannot accept that fact that, with its great potential, the Ministry of the Oil Refining and Petrochemical Industry is not planning an increase in the proportion of high-quality output next year. We believe that Comrade Akimov must immediately review his proposals. The ministry must insure, no later than the third quarter of next year the commissioning of the premises being constructed for reforming gasoline at the Vladimir Ilich Novobakinskiy refinery; the accelerated modernization and reequipping of catalytic cracking installations for the production of high-octane nonethylated gasolines, and the implementation of measures on the separate reception and refining of local oil and sulfurous oil from elsewhere. It is necessary to solve promptly all questions connected with the construction of the second powerful complex for primary oil refining at the 22d CPSU Congress Baku oil refinery, installations for the water purification of oil and cooking and other questions. The ministry's leaders must carry out fully and on schedule tasks connected with the fundamental modernization of the Azerbaijan oil-refining industry envisaged by the 27 July 1976 CPSU Central Committee resolution.

["The chemical and petrochemical industry will develop rapidly in 1979; production will increase 11.4 percent, 18.4 percent in the case of the chemical industry. The fulfillment of this task requires maximum mobilization of reserves and stable and steady work by all production units. The work of the Sumgaitkhimprom Association has deteriorated this year. A number of basic production units are operating at 40-85 percent capacity. The republic's Gosplan, in conjunction with the Sumgaitkhimprom Association, must immediately examine and solve all questions in union organs to prevent a repetition of this year's shortcomings in 1979."]

Kazakhstan Party Plenum

LD271121Y Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Excerpts] A routine Kazakhstan CP Central Committee plenum--the tenth--was held on 18 December 1978.

The plenum heard and discussed a report delivered by Comrade D.A. Kunayev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee, on "The Republic Party Organization's Tasks in Fulfilling the Decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's Instructions in His Speech at the Plenum."

In the resolution it adopted the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee plenum wholly and fully approved the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the conclusions and provisions set forth in the speech delivered at the plenum by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev and adopted them for guidance and unswerving execution.

The Kazakhstan CP Central Committee plenum approved in the main the draft state plan for the Kazakh SSR's economic and social development and of the republic state budget for 1979.

The Kazakhstan CP Central Committee Plenum examined organizational questions.

The plenum elected I. Abdukarimov member of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee Bureau.

The plenum elected Yu.N. Trofimov secretary and Bureau member of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee.

The plenum elected K.M. Aukhadiyev member of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee Bureau.

The plenum released S.B. Niyazbekov from his duties as member of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee Bureau in connection with his retirement.

The plenum released Sh.K. Kospanov from his duties as secretary and Bureau member of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee in connection with his retirement.

The plenum released A. Askarov from his duties as member of the Kazakhstan CP Central Committee Bureau.

With this the Tenth Kazakhstan CP Central Committee plenum ended its work.

A.I. Rachkov, sector chief of the CPSU Central Committee Organizational Party Work Department, took part in the work of the plenum.

Kirgiz Party Plenum

LD212126Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 21 Dec 78 LD

[Text] The tasks of the republican party organization arising from the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum and Comrade Brezhnev's speech at it were discussed at a plenum of the Kirgiz CP Central Committee. The report of Usubaliyev, first secretary of the republican CP Central Committee, and the speeches noted that during the 10th 5-Year Plan period which has elapsed, further development has been achieved by industry, construction, agriculture, science and culture. At the same time it was stressed that the rates for the development of industry are lagging behind those planned, capital investments are frequently being dissipated and the rates and quality of construction are low. Specific measures were outlined to eradicate the shortcomings.

Moldavian Party Plenum

LD262327Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Kishinev--A plenum of the Moldavian CP party Central Committee was held here today. The results of the CPSU Central Committee November Plenum and the tasks of the republican party organization proceeding from its decisions and from Leonid Ilich Brezhnev's speech were discussed. While implementing the socioeconomic program prepared by the 25th party congress, the Moldavian working people have attained further developments in their productive forces. This was noted in the report made by Bodyul, first secretary of the republican CP Central Committee, and by other speakers.

Those who participated in the plenum also exposed shortcomings in the work of individual party, administrative and economic organs. In industry, in particular, it was noted that the growth rate in gross output and labor productivity are lagging behind the targets set by the 5-year plan. The plans for the production and sales to the state of certain types of agricultural produce have also not been fulfilled. The plenum has examined and generally approved the draft republican state plan and budget for next year.

MAGADANSKIY OBKOM RELIEVES FIRST SECRETARY

LD261240Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] A plenum of the Magadanskiy Obkom was held today to discuss an organizational problem. The plenum relieved Shaydurov of his duties as first secretary of the obkom for unsatisfactory work in the leadership of the oblast party organization. The plenum elected Malkov, who has been second secretary of the Primorskiy Kraykom, to the post of first secretary of the Magadanskiy Obkom.

KALININSKIY OBKOM PLENUM REPLACES FIRST SECRETARY

LD221729Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 Dec 78 p 2 LD

[Text] Kalinin, 18 December, TASS--A Kalininskiy Obkom plenum took place here today at which an organizational question was examined. In connection with his retirement on a pension N.G. Korytkov was released from his duties as obkom first secretary. P.A. Leonov, former first secretary of the Sakhalinskiy Obkom, was elected Kalininskiy Obkom first secretary.

GORNO-BADAKHSHANSKIY OBKOM REPLACES FIRST SECRETARY

LD221153Y Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA in Russian 16 Dec 78 p 1 LD

[Text] Khorog, 15 December, TADZHIKTA--A Gorno-Badakhshanskiy Obkom plenum has discussed a report on the obkom's work and the oblast party organization's tasks in fulfilling the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress and the CPSU Central Committee November (1978) Plenum and the instructions put forward by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, at the plenum. An appropriate resolution was adopted on the question discussed. The plenum also examined an organizational question. In connection with his transfer to other work Kh. Davlyatkadamov was released from his duties as first secretary of the obkom. Aloviddin Babayev, formerly secretary of the Leninabadskiy Obkom, was elected first secretary of the Gorno-Badakhshanskiy Obkom. Taking part in the work of the plenum were D.R. Rasulov, first secretary of the Tadzhik CP Central Committee; Yu.I. Polukarov, second secretary of the Tadzhik CP Central Committee, and A.P. Romanovskiy, CPSU Central Committee instructor.

ALL-UNION POPULATION CENSUS TO BEGIN 17 JANUARY

LD262202Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1945 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpt] The population census has been completed on the shores of the Sea of Okhotsk. It was held a month earlier there than in other areas of the country, because, according to meteorological forecasts, a sharp deterioration in weather conditions is expected here in January. The all-union population census will start on 17 January. The importance of the census lies in the fact that its figures indicate changes in the life of the people, in the national economy and in the country's educational and cultural level. It provides details about the population that are widely used by the organs of state administration, socioeconomic planning groups and scientific research bodies.

UKRAINIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES HEAD ON AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH

LD251730Y Moscow TASS in English 1641 GMT 25 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Kiev, December 25, TASS--Fundamental research, conducted by the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, helped to create within a short period of time equipment for much faster and easier processing, haulage and storage of farm produce. This is the opinion of Boris Paton, president of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. On the basis of research into low temperatures, engineers have designed, for example, nitrogen cooling and chilling systems for perishables. Such systems, Boris Paton told a TASS correspondent, are already widely used in agriculture and the food industry. They are noted for their reliability and simple design, while having a wide range of cooling rates and temperatures. Scientists have elaborated autonomous cryogenic equipment for container shipment. Such systems, according to Paton, can be used also as store refrigerators. It was calculated that the operation of one refrigerator with the new cooling device in big cities saves about four thousand roubles a year. Ukrainian scientists have developed a method of thermal treatment of beets, with a much shorter sugar production cycle and greater yields of sugar without increasing the land area under it. The introduction of the new method will help produce additionally 1.5 million tons of sugar a year at sugar refineries in the Ukraine. Institutes of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences together with enterprises of the republic's chemical industry started to manufacture mono-granular mineral fertilizers, which raise productivity of grain crops and sugar beet by ten percent.

RADIO REPORTS ON WINTER AGRICULTURAL WORK 21-26 DEC

LD0270357Y [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 0500 GMT on 21 December reports that farms in Kazakhstan have 3 million tons of seed prepared for sowing. Moscow radio at 1100 GMT on 22 December reports that snow retention work is to be carried out throughout the country on a large area--about 86 million hectares. Much snow now lies in the fields of the Central Nonchernozem Zone, Western Siberia, the Urals and the virgin lands of Kazakhstan. In the south of the country, the Central Asian republics, the Transcaucasus and the Kuban, the top dressing of winter crops is continuing. In the RSFSR over 2 million hectares have been treated with mineral fertilizers, which is 13 percent of the area sown to winter crops. At 0500 GMT on 25 December, the radio reports that 4.5 million tons of grain seed have been prepared for sowing next year in Kurganskaya Oblast. The same report adds that overhauling of all sowing and soil cultivation equipment has been completed in the Don region. At 1100 GMT on 25 December a radio correspondent reports from the Kuban region that over 300,000 hectares of winter wheat have been treated with mineral fertilizer. Another report during the same newscast notes that a Moscow Radio correspondent was told at the USSR Ministry of Agriculture that Uzbekistan is the first republic to complete the year's plan for meat procurement. Azerbaijan, Lithuania, Armenia and Turkmenia have nearly done so. For the country as a whole, about 700,000-800,000 tons more live weight meat will be procured this year than last year. However, this still falls short of the plan. The milk plan has been fulfilled ahead of schedule by Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and Armenia, and good progress is being made in Belorussia, Turkmenia and elsewhere. All this shows that wintering of cattle is going well in spite of severe frosts. Farms in the Ukraine, Kazakhstan and the central Asian republics, have enough fodder of their own. In the Nonchernozem Zone and the Baltic republics, state aid had to be given since bad weather in the summer meant that not enough fodder was grown. The report closes by noting that there are about 90,000 fodder-shops at farms throughout the country where fodder is enriched with protein and other materials by use of additives such as carbamide, concentrates and minerals. At 1200 GMT on 25 December Moscow Radio reports that the Uzbek SSR has overfulfilled the plan for the sale of raw cotton to the state, delivering 5.51 million tons of raw cotton, including 295,000 tons of valuable fine fiber cotton. At 0230 GMT on 26 December Moscow Radio reports that farmers in Tadzhikistan have completed 99 percent of their winter sowing in spite of autumn rains.

III. 27 Dec 78

USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
SCIENTIFIC AFFAIRS

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TWO COSMOS SATELLITES LAUNCHED 26 DECEMBER

Cosmos-1067

LD270730Y Moscow TASS in English 0726 GMT 27 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 27, TASS--A new earth satellite, Cosmos-1067, was launched in the Soviet Union on December 26 to continue the exploration of outer space. Its initial period of revolution is 109.2 minutes, maximum distance from the earth--1226, minimum distance--1184 kilometres, the orbit's inclination--83 degrees. The instruments aboard the satellite are functioning normally.

Cosmos-1068

LD270717Y Moscow TASS in English 0714 GMT 27 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 27, TASS--An artificial earth satellite, Cosmos-1068, was launched in the Soviet Union on December 26 to continue exploration of outer space. Its initial period of revolution is 90.2 minutes, maximum distance from the earth--408, minimum distance--187 kilometres, the orbit's inclination--62.8 degrees. The apparatus aboard the satellite is functioning normally.

HEAVY-ION ACCELERATOR PUT INTO OPERATION IN DUBNA

LD270042Y Moscow TASS in English 2039 GMT 26 Dec 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, December 26, TASS--The 4-metre U-400 cyclotron, a powerful heavy-ion accelerator, was put into operation at the joint institute of nuclear research, a scientific centre of countries of the socialist community in Dubna, near Moscow. By its design and parameters, this is one of the most perfect heavy-ion accelerators and for a number of indices it is the most powerful unit in the world meant for research of a wide range. It opens broad prospects for fundamental research in the sphere of nuclear physics, reactions between complex nucleus and artificial synthesis of new transuranium elements. Beams of heavy ions widen considerably the possibilities of fundamental science and technology for solving tasks of great practical importance, specifically in manufacturing molecular filters for radiation materials science. The unit was designed by Dubna specialists, scientists and engineers of socialist countries made a considerable contribution to its construction.

AIRBORNE EXPEDITION TO ARCTIC ALMOST OVER

LD251738Y Moscow TASS in English 1650 GMT 25 Dec 78 LD

[Excerpts] Moscow, December 25, TASS--One more trip is left to be made this year by participants in the Soviet airborne expedition Sever-78 (North-78). Pilots will deliver fir-trees, presents and new year congratulations to researchers on polar stations. Flights from the continent to the Severny Polyus (North Pole) stations were conducted well into the polar night. One drifting camp was evacuated (due to the dangerous proximity of warm currents) and another two received 100 tons of cargo--foodstuffs and scientific equipment. When leaving the Severny Polyus-24 station, acting since last spring, participants in the high-latitude expedition measured the ice underneath. Polar explorers were proved to be safe: The ice underneath is 30 meters thick. The floe crossed the 79th parallel and is moving towards the North Pole. Researchers are carrying out an extensive hydrometeorological program under the international program of global research into atmospheric processes. A TASS correspondent was told at Aeroflot that the air link over the Arctic will be reopened in March, when another high-latitude expedition starts operating.